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The TATLER.

By *Isaac Bickerstaff* Esq;

——— *Dicenda, tacenda, loquutus.* Hor.

From *Saturday April* 29. to *Tuesday May* 2. 1710.

White's Chocolate-house, May 1.

THE World is so overgrown with Singularities in Behaviour and Method of living, that I have no sooner laid before Mankind the Absurdity of one Species of Men, but there starts up to my View some new Sect of Impertinents that had before escaped Notice. This Afternoon, as I was talking with fine Mrs. *Sprightly*'s Porter, and desiring Admittance upon an extraordinary Occasion, it was my Fate to be spy'd by *Tom Modely* riding by in his Chariot. He did me the Honour to stop, and asked, What I did there of a *Monday*? I answered, That I had Business of Importance, which I wanted to communicate to the Lady of the House. *Tom* is one of those Fools who look upon Knowledge of the Fashion to be the only Liberal Science, and was so rough as to tell me, That a well-bred Man would as soon call upon a Lady (who keeps a Day) at Midnight, as on any Day but that on which she professes being at Home. There are Rules and Decorums which are never to be transgressed by those who understand the World, and he who offends in that Kind, ought not to take it ill, if he is turned away even when he sees the Person look out at her Window whom he enquired for. Nay, said he, my Lady *Dimple* is so positive in this Rule, that she takes it for a Piece of good Breeding and Distinction to deny her self with her own Mouth. Mrs. *Comma*, the great Scholar, insists upon it, and I my self have heard her assert, That a Lord's Porter, or a Lady's Woman, cannot be said to lie in that Case, because they act by Instruction, and their Words are no more their own than those of a Puppet.

He was going on with this Ribaldry, when on a sudden he looked on his Watch, and said, he had Twenty Visits to make, and drove away without further Ceremony. I was then at Leisure to reflect upon the Tastless Manner of Life which a Set of idle Fellows lead in this Town, and spend Youth it self with less Spirit than other Men do their old Age. These Expletives in human Society, tho' they are in themselves wholly insignificant, become of some Consideration when they are mixed with others. I am very much at a Loss how to define, or under what Character, Distinction, or Denomination to place them, except you give me Leave to call them the Order of the *Insipids*. This Order is in its Extent like that of the Jesuits, and you see of them in every Way of Life, and in every Profession. *Tom Modely* has long appeared to me at the Head of this Species. By being habitually in the best Company, he knows perfectly well when a Coat is well cut, or a Periwig well mounted. As soon as you enter the Place where he is, he tells the next Man to him who is your Taylor, and judges of you more from the Choice of your Periwig-Maker than of your Friend. His Business in this World was to be well dressed, and the greatest Circumstance that is to be recorded in his Annals, is, That he wears Twenty Shirts a Week. Thus, without ever speaking Reason among the Men, or Passion among the Women, he is every where well received, and without any one Man's Esteem, he has every Man's Indulgence.

This Order has produced great Numbers of tolerable Copyers in Painting, good Rhimers in Poetry, and harmless Projectors in Politicks. You may see them at first Sight grow acquainted by Sympathy, insomuch that one who had not studied Nature, and did not know the true Cause of their sudden Familiarities, would think, That they had some secret Intimation of each other, like the Free-Masons. The other Day at *Will*'s, I heard *Modely*, and a Critick of the same Order, show their equal Talents with great Delight: The Learned Insipid was commending *Racine*'s Turns, the Genteel Insipid, *Duvallier*'s Curls.

These Creatures, when they are not forced into any particular Employment, for want of Idea's in their own Imaginations, are the constant Plague of all they meet with, by Enquiries for News and Scandal, which makes them the Heroes of Visiting-Days, where they help the Design of the Meeting, which is to pass away that odious Thing call'd Time, in Discourses too trivial to raise any Reflections which may put well bred Persons to the Trouble of Thinking.

From my own Apartment, May 1.

I was looking out of my Parlour Window this Morning, and receiving the Honours which *Margery*, the Milk-Maid to our Lane, was doing me, by dancing before my Door with the Plate of half her Customers on her Head, when Mr. *Clayton*, the Author of *Arsinoe*, made me a Visit, and desired

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me to insert the following Advertisement in my ensuing Paper.

The Pastoral Mask composed by Mr. Clayton, *Author of* Arsinoe, *will be performed on* Wednesday *the Third Instant, in the Great Room at* York-Buildings. *Tickets are to be had at* White's *Chocolate-house, and St.* James's *Coffee-house, in St.* James's*-street, and* Young-Man's *Coffee-house.*

Note, the Tickets delivered out for the 27th of April *will be taken then.*

When I granted his Request, I made one to him, which was, That the Performers should put their Instruments in Tune before the Audience came in; for that I thought the Resentment of the *Eastern* Prince, who, according to the old Story, took *Tuning* for *Playing*, to be very just and natural. He was so civil as not only to promise that Favour, but also to assure me, that he would order the Heels of the Performers to be muffled in Cotton, that the Artists, in so polite an Age as ours, may not intermix with their Harmony a Custom which so nearly resembles the stamping Dances of the *West-Indians* or *Hottentots.*

ADVERTISEMENTS.

A Bass-Viol *of Mr.* Bickerstaff's *Acquaintance, whose Mind and Fortune do not very exactly agree, proposes to set himself to Sale by Way of Lottery. Ten thousand Pounds is the Sum to be raised, at Threepence a Ticket, in Consideration that there are more Women who are willing to be married than that can spare a greater Sum. He has already made over his Person to Trustees for the said Money to be forth coming, and ready to take to Wife the fortunate Woman that wins him.*

N. B. *Tickets are given out by Mr.* Charles Lillie, *and Mr.* John Morphew. *Each Adventurer must be a Virgin, and subscribe her Name to her Ticket.*

Whereas the several Church-Wardens of most of the Parishes within the Bills of Mortality, have in an earnest Manner applied themselves by Way of Petition, and have also made a Presentment of the vain and loose Deportment, during divine Service, of Persons of too great Figure, in all their said Parishes, for their Reproof. And whereas it is therein set forth, That by Salutations given each other, Hints, Shrugs, Ogles, playing of Fans, fooling with Canes at their Mouths, and other wanton Gesticulations, their whole Congregation appears rather a Theatrical Audience than an House of Devotion. It is hereby ordered, That all Canes, Cravats, Bosom-Laces, Fans, Snuff-boxes, and all other Instruments made use of to give Persons unbecoming Airs, shall be immediately forfeited and sold, and of the Sum arising from the Sale thereof a Ninth Part shall be paid to the Poor, and the rest to the Overseers,

Advertisements.

TO satisfy Gentlemen and Ladies who it is that would impose, in Relation to those Men and Women's Gowns, to be sold at the Olive-Tree and Still at Charing-Cross; advertiz'd against in the Post-Man, with Invitation to Ludgate-Hill: If they please to enquire at any Shop on the said Hill, they may be satisfied that there is not a Quarter of the Choice as there is in the Room at Charing-Cross; nor can they afford so good Pennyworths, because upon Examination, these will be truly found to be the Goods of Persons that failed.

THE Sale of Looking-Glasses by Auction at the Engine Looking Glass Warehouse in Beauford-Buildings in the Strand, which was put off to the latter End of April, is now fixed for Tuesday the 9th Instant, without fail; where Attendance will be daily given, and Catalogues delivered out every Day till the Day of Sale, the Trade being left off, and the House to be let, and no more of the Engine-Work to be had after this Sale. Note: Most of the Glasses that were unfitted by Reason of the Time of the first Sale being prolonged, are now fitted up in curious Frames of several Sorts. This will be the finest Shew of great Glass, Tea-Tables, China-Ware, Fans, Indian Screens, and several other Rarities, that was ever shown in England. They may be viewed every Day till the Time of Sale.

A Small Parcel of excellent Pictures, lately brought from beyond Sea, of Nicholas and Gaspar Poussin, Luca Jordano, Claude Lorain, Francesco Bolognese, Francesco Mola, Brouwer, Teniers, Wouwerman, Berchem, and other celebrated Masters, will be sold by Auction on Monday the 8th Instant, at Mr. Bressans at the Two Flower-Pots, the House next beyond the Stables in Somerset-house-yard; where Catalogues may be had, and the Pictures view'd Three Days before the Sale.

IN Black and White Court, in the Old-Bayly, is a fine young fresh Yorkshire Gelding, lately come out of the Country, to be sold.

*** There is just published, An Account of the Conduct of the Roman-Catholick Clergy and Zealots of France, from the first Toleration there of the Protestants to their Expulsion: Proving Historically, that those Clergy and Zealots have been the Ruin of the ancient Constitution of Government in that Kingdom. Written and first published in Jan. 1709. and since reprinted with some Additions. Sold by J. Morphew near Stationers-Hall.

*** This Day is published, The Bed-Post, with the Character of the Upholsterers Company: Also an Explanation of the Proverb, I'll be about you in the Twinkling of a Bed-staff. Which Bed-Post is one of those 3000 Posts that will be published every Tuesday and Saturday, till Dunton's Oracle is compleated in 3000 distinct Posts. To each of which is added, The Casuistical Post, or Athenian News, resolving the most nice and curious Questions propos'd by the Ingenious of either Sex. The Farewel, Sibil, Duelling, and Love Post, &c. are already published; and when the Athenian News is continued Weekly to 18 Posts, 12 Posts will be published together, to compleat the first Volume, which will be sold by J. Morphew near Stationers-Hall, for 2 s. 6 d. with an Emblem of the several Posts, to be given gratis to such as take in Dunton's Oracle Weekly.

FOR Sale by the Candle, at the Seven Stars Coffee-house in the Little Piazza, Covent-Garden, being the House Mr. Rigby, Mercer, kept Shop, on Thursday next, the 4th Instant, at Three of the Clock in the Afternoon; Silks, Stuffs, Callimancoes, Durants, Poplins, Silk Hose, Handkerchiefs, Sattins, Cloth, made Cloths, &c. And must be all sold to adjust an Account. The Goods to be seen next Door to the Glovers, Two Doors beyond Fountain-Court in the Strand, till the Time of Sale.

A Collection of Original Pictures, by the best ancient and modern Masters, to be sold by Auction at the Blue Posts in the Hay-Market, on Thursday next, being the 4th Instant, the Sale beginning at 10 a Clock. The Pictures to be view'd this Day and to Morrow, and Catalogues to be had at the Place of Sale.

*** A most exact Plan of the City and Fortifications of Douay and Fort Scarpe, as communicated by the Sieur des Roque, chief Director in the Siege; with an Explanation of the Terms used in Sieges: Together with a correct Map of the Country about Douay and Arras, in so long a Scale as to express every particular Place where our Army lies extended. By J. Senex, and C. Price, Geographers. Sold by J. Morphew near Stationers-Hall, Mr. J. Hyde, Stationer, under the Royal-Exchange, Mr. Brandreth and Weildey in Ludgate-street, and Mr. J. Senex going into Salisbury-court in Fleet-street. Where may be had a new Map of the Provinces of Hainault, Namur, and Cambray, on a large Imperial Sheet.

A Bred Mare, 6 Years old, above 14 Hands and a half, exactly well turn'd, walks, trots, and gallops, in Perfection, fit for a Hunter, if too old to be trained for the Race, to be sold. Enquire at Serle's Coffee-house under Lincoln's-Inn-gate, or at St. James's Coffee-house.

TO those that are afflicted with the STONE and GRAVEL; These are to certifie whom it may concern, That I Anthony Moring, (who keep the Blue Posts Eating-house just without Temple-bar) having been for about two Years very much afflicted with the Stone and Gravel, was advised by a Neighbour of mine (from whom it had brought away Thirteen Stones) to try the Powder that is sold by Mr. Rogers in Fleet-street, and Mr. Aylmer in Cornhil, Booksellers, for that Distemper; which I did, and found such Success from the Use of it, that it brought away lately from me nine Stones, three of which were very large, which I have by me ready to shew to any one that desires to see them; since which Time, I have continued very well. Witness my Hand this 21 Feb. 1709-10. *Anthony Moring.*

PErfect Cure for the Asthma by an Elixir, (a pleasant and innocent Medicine) to be taken in Drops, which has done Wonders in that Case; but the Author's saying so being not so convincing as trying it will be, he desires you would for your own Sake, when, if it does no Good, can do no Harm to the Body, nor much to the Purse in laying out 5 s. 6 d. which is the Price of a Bottle. To be had only at Mr. Lawrence's, a Toy-shop at the Griffin the Corner of Bucklersbury, Poultry.